

Blackness Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 19th February 2020, The Lobster Pot

Attendees: Community Council members: Martin Watt (chair), Karen Walker (minutes), Terry Rowland, Annie Meikle, David Lawson Members of the public: 8 Attending: 1 x Police Officer (GMcD)	
1. Apologies	
Dorothy Garrow, Cllr David Aitchison, Malcolm Brown (HES), Kath Burlinson (parking subcommittee)	
2. Approval of Previous Minutes:	Action
Previous meeting minutes now approved and can be forwarded to FC for publication.	KW
3. Community Police Report	
<p>No incidents or crimes to report though a meeting attendee did mention the theft of oil from a tank from a cottage locally.</p> <p>There are no laws regarding how many cyclists can ride abreast but the Highway Code recommends a maximum of 2. Police patrols do keep their eye on cyclists and are aware from January's CC meeting of the comments regarding those cycling 5 abreast up Mannerston and on other local roads.</p> <p>Parking is now decriminalised and is therefore under FC jurisdiction however in the case of antisocial behaviour (such as cars playing loud music late at night/early am), incidents should be reported to the police.</p> <p>The laws pertaining to drones (particularly on the sea front) were queried but unless there is a suspected invasion of privacy, this is not a police matter. The police are aware of any CCTVs being used in the village and they are all deemed as compliant.</p>	
4. Actions and matters arising from previous minutes	
A laminated local area & village map was provided for the notice board. AM to retrieve the notice board key from the school (if not already done so by Jan Ferguson) and will leave with the Lobster Pot for safe keeping/future use.	AM
KW to check with Helen Brown re update on the playpark.	KW
5. Village parking	
<p>The new parking subcommittee's (PSC) aim is to collate information and consensus of opinion of those in the village to try to work out what ideas might be acceptable. MW has circulated a working document to the PSC which can be used to collate information and reduce repetition at CC meetings.</p> <p>AM continues to keep in touch with HES and she hopes to hear what ideas they have which might help to improve the situation in the village. She may arrange a separate meeting with Malcolm Brown (KW offered to attend if helpful).</p> <p>A meeting attendee asked if any other funding is available however until we have some feedback from HES, this has not yet been explored.</p> <p>Parking will be kept as the first discussion point on the BACC agenda to encourage people to come along.</p>	
	PSC
	AM

Blackness Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 19th February 2020, The Lobster Pot

6. Planning	
<p>A meeting was hosted by Falkirk community councillors on 3rd Feb 2020 to discuss the potential for Scottish Community Councils to reach a joint position on the provision for Local Place Plans (LPPs) in the new Planning (Scotland) Act. TR and AM attended on behalf of BACC and provided the following meeting summary:</p> <p><i>It was agreed in principle to form a joint forum for all the community councils in Falkirk area which would meet once or twice a year.</i></p> <p><i>Some community councils have already carried out much of the considerable work needed to put Local Place Plans in place. It was agreed that if they were to have a meaningful impact, their effectiveness would need to be enshrined in law rather than simply having guidelines for their application. Producing LPPs require a lot of work and must ensure the full engagement of all the diverse groups/stakeholders within the community. We will receive a suggested Declaration which we can sign up to with a view to trying to influence the secondary legislation and guidance on Local Place Plans in 2021.</i></p> <p><i>A large proportion of the meeting was taken up with discussions concerning the unsatisfactory nature of the planning process within Falkirk council (and other councils). This was deemed to be flawed in many ways. Often decisions were taken which contradicted the local plans and by councillors who were not suitably informed when making planning decisions.</i></p> <p>Following discussion, BACC and attendees agreed to support the joint position where we can but that we unfortunately do not have the resources/man power to put our own LLP in place. It was generally felt that the FC planning committee is incompetent and not fit for purpose as also noted by other community councillors at the meeting on 3rd February.</p> <p>No 18 Mannerston Holdings – the response from Douglas Duff at FC re BACCs query on “material considerations” is not considered very helpful and does not enable us to fully understand why multiple policy breaches can be ignored. Since the implications for no 18 now being granted are of great concern it was concluded that BACC should go back to FC and ask again why is the planning department required when it’s ignored in cases such as this. It was agreed that any relevant politicians and the press should be copied on the email to DD as we have no other options left.</p> <p>Planning permission has been approved for Clairdhu Blackness Linlithgow EH49 7NW - P/19/0799/FUL</p>	
7. Flight path matters	
<p>The CAA has confirmed that EAL’s flight path change submission did not pass the stage 1 Define Gateway of CAP1616 however EAL plan to resubmit by 24th April 2020.</p> <p>MA attended the monthly EANAB meeting on 5th February 2020. EANAB would very much like to see a ban on night time flights such as other countries have implemented. There is a possibility of EANAB coordinating efforts with the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee.</p>	

Blackness Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 19th February 2020, The Lobster Pot

8. Councillors Update	
Cllr DA not present	
9. Budget	
<p>Current available funds are £2258.08 (some of which is from the Playpark fundraiser and could go towards something there). £8102.00 cheque for play park has been paid. MW is now a bank signatory for cheques. The Data Protection fee is due to be paid.</p> <p>The donation to cover £48 cost of the December Xmas Fair hall rental was clarified; the fair was run by the school PTA and BACC will reimburse them for the hall rental fee.</p> <p>A donation towards the battery required to ensure ongoing functioning of the village defibrillator was agreed at the last meeting and KW/DL is to liaise with the Hall Committee to work out how much each will donate. .</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*DL/SG/KW</p>
10. Community Projects	
<p><u>Blackness Community Hall:</u> Reminder: The Hall Committee needs volunteers to join the committee and also help with some small maintenance jobs. If anyone can help or would like to rent the hall (£12 per hour) please contact Sue (suegairns@btinternet.com). Thank you.</p> <p><i>Family Spring Ceilidh: Saturday 25th April 2020. 7-11pm.</i> Live music. Two course supper included. Doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets available from Shelagh 834293 or Sue 834782 (Adults £12, age 5-12 £9, Under 5 free). Last year was a sell out!!!!</p> <p><u>Post meeting note: Ceilidh may be postponed due to the current Coronavirus situation</u></p> <p><u>Other projects</u> Anyone with good ideas for fund raising or community projects, please contact a BACC member or email blacknessc@googlemail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p>
11. AOCB	
<p><u>Defibrillator Battery</u> –£73 was collected in the Lobster Pot and £150 is still needed – see budget action above.</p> <p><u>Defibrillator</u> - AM to contact the Boat Club to arrange a training session which will be available to all.</p> <p><u>Flooding</u> – TR has reported the repeated flooding on the B903 to FC. DL reported that the section of road at his house also becomes flooded in heavy rain due to the new tarmac that was put in past the school and that he's still awaiting sandbags from FC to protect his property. It was noted that drains are not being maintained and cleaned regularly presumably as a result of FC budget cuts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">*DL/SG/KW</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FC</p>
Meeting closed at 8.55pm.	
Date of next meeting: 7pm, Wednesday 18th March 2020 in the Lobster Pot	

Blackness Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 19th February 2020, The Lobster Pot

USEFUL CONTACTS/INFORMATION

BACC elected members	Martin Watt (Convener)	blacknessc@googlemail.com
	David Lawson (Treasurer)	
	Dorothy Garrow	
BACC co-opted members	Karen Walker (Secretary)	
	Anne Meikle	
	Terry Rowland	
Bo'ness & Blackness Councillors	David Aitchison	07484926985 david.aitchison@falkirk.gov.uk
	Lynn Munro	01324 506146 (office) lynn.munro@falkirk.gov.uk
	Ann Ritchie	01324 506164 (office) ann.ritchie@falkirk.gov.uk
Edinburgh Airport	Noise complaints	0800 731 3397 noise@edinburghairport.com

Blackness Defibrillator Locations:

24 hour access: on the external wall of the Boat Club
 Castle open hours: HES shop at Blackness Castle.